

Message Text

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APPROVED BY JLKATZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080141

FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 1753 SENT ACTIONSECSTATE DTD APRIL 8-75

QTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 1753

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, NL

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: KLM CAPACITY

REF: STATE 74094 AND 70065

1. IN ACCORDANCE REFTELS AND ACCOMPANIED BY ECON COUNSELOR, I CALLED APRIL 7 ON MINISTER OF TRANSPORT WESTERTERP. ZWANENBURG ALSO ATTENDED. AFTER MAKING IT CLEAR THAT MY APPROACH WAS THAT OF A FRIENDLY INTERLOCUTOR WHO WANTED TO APPRISE THE DUTCH AUTHORITIES OF REALITIES OF SITUATION FROM U.S. POINT OF VIEW, I CAREFULLY COVERED EACH OF THE ELEMENTS OUTLINED IN PARA 2 OF STATE 70065, EMPHASIZING THE VERY REAL DANGER OF THE PRESSURE BUILDING FOR DENUNCIATION.

2. WESTERTERP SAID AN OFFICIAL GON RESPONSE WOULD BE GIVEN AFTER MY APRIL 8 MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL. HE ADDED THAT, WHILE GON WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS, IT APPEARED THAT GON'S OFFICIAL MINIMUM OF 21 FLIGHTS AND USG'S OFFICIAL MAXIMUM OF 18 FLIGHTS PER WEEK FOR KLM WOULD MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT TO
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REACH A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION. HE SAID HE HOPED THE DUTCH

PRESS WOULD NOT LEARN THAT USG WAS INSISTING ON RESTRICTING KLM FLIGHTS TO 18, AS THIS WOULD CREATE TREMENDOUS PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY PRESSURE ON GON TO REFUSE FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS AND ASKED THAT THIS INFORMATION BE HELD AT A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT LEVEL. I ASSURED HIM THAT SUCH WAS CERTAINLY OUR INTENTION.

3. WESTERTERP NOTED THAT IT MIGHT BE WISE TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS TO TWO OR THREE TO A SIDE. WHILE WESTERTERP SAID HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET IN WASHINGTON ON APRIL 29 AND 30, HE OFFERED CURACAO, WHERE ZWANENBURG IS DUE FROM APRIL 13 TO 19, AS A POSSIBLE ALTERNATE SITE.
GOULD
KISSINGER

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